



# FY25 Senate Appropriations Committee Defense Appropriations Act S. 4921



As of August 29, 2024

**Bill Status**

	Passed in Committee	Passed in Chamber	Final Passage	Signed into Law
House	13 June 2024	28 June 24	--	--
Senate	01 August 2024	--	--	

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## Executive Summary

This guide provides a summary of the Senate Defense Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025. To obtain a complete understanding of any particular provision, users are encouraged to review the actual legislative language. Bill text and report language can be found on the LL website: <https://www.nationalguard.mil/leadership/joint-staff/personal-staff/legislative-liaison/>.

### Status:

On August 01<sup>st</sup>, 2024, the Senate Appropriations Committee passed the FY25 Defense Appropriations Act by a vote of 28 to 0. The Senate Defense Appropriations Bill provides \$852.2 billion in total funding—a \$27.2 billion, or 3.3% increase over fiscal year 2024.

### Highlights:

- Funds a 4.5% military pay raise.
- Funds a larger 5.5% military pay raise for junior enlisted personnel in the E1-E3 ranks
- \$170M add for the National Guard Counterdrug Program
- \$50M add for NG Youth ChalleNGe Program
- \$20M add for STARBASE
- \$2M add for SPP

#### ARNG Funding highlights:

- \$310M for NGREA
- \$60M add for Facilities sustainment, Restoration & Modernization
- \$12.2M add for modernized HMMWVs (ARNG specific)

#### ANG Funding highlights:

- \$300M for NGREA
- \$1.05B add for eight C-130J aircraft (ANG specific)
- \$200M add for one additional LC-130J aircraft
- \$57.2M add for Facilities sustainment, Restoration & Modernization
- \$50M add for F-16 Simulators (ANG specific)
- \$37.2M add for facility enhancements for future foreign military pilot training sites
- \$2M add for Modular Indoor Shooting Ranges (ANG Specific)

# National Guard Accounts Overview

(All Dollars in Thousands)

Army National Guard	FY25 President's Budget Request	FY25 HAC-D Mark	Delta from Request	FY25 SAC-D Mark	Delta from Request	FY25 Conference
ARNG Personnel	\$9,936,760	\$9,975,860	\$39,100	\$9,909,645	-\$27,115	
ARNG O&M	\$8,646,145	\$8,591,745	-\$54,400	\$8,609,258	-\$36,887	
NGREA	--	\$248,000	\$248,000	\$310,000	\$310,000	

Air National Guard	FY25 President's Budget Request	FY25 HAC-D Mark	Delta from Request	FY25 SAC-D Mark	Delta from Request	FY25 Conference
ANG Personnel	\$5,397,298	\$5,383,100	-\$14,198	\$5,285,794	-\$111,504	
ANG O&M	\$7,403,771	\$7,270,145	-\$133,626	\$7,401,081	-\$2,690	
NGREA	--	\$240,000	\$240,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	



# Army National Guard

## Army National Guard Personnel

(All Dollars in Thousands)

ARNG Personnel Appropriation	FY25 President's Budget Request	FY25 HAC-D Mark	Delta from Request	FY25 SAC-D Mark	Delta from Request	FY25 Conference
PAY GROUP A TRAINING (15 DAYS & DRILLS 24/48)	\$2,875,688	\$2,875,688	--	\$2,875,688	--	
PAY GROUP F TRAINING (RECRUITS)	\$600,719	\$600,719	--	\$600,719	--	
PAY GROUP P TRAINING (PIPELINE RECRUITS)	\$62,762	\$62,762	--	\$62,762	--	
SCHOOL TRAINING	\$532,632	\$532,632	--	\$533,132 <sup>6</sup>	\$500	
SPECIAL TRAINING	\$859,161	\$862,986 <sup>1,2</sup>	\$3,825	\$884,399 <sup>7-12</sup>	\$25,238	
ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT	\$4,926,256	\$4,926,256	--	\$4,926,256	--	
THRIFT SAVINGS PLAN MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS	\$39,418	\$39,418	--	\$39,418	--	
EDUCATION BENEFITS	\$40,124	\$40,124	--	\$40,124	--	
<b>TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1 (BAC-01)</b>	<b>\$9,936,760</b>	<b>\$9,940,585</b>	<b>\$3,825</b>	<b>\$9,962,498</b>	<b>\$25,738</b>	
UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENT	--	\$35,275 <sup>3-5</sup>	\$35,275	-\$52,853 <sup>13,14</sup>	-\$52,853	
<b>TOTAL, TITLE I, ARNG PERSONNEL</b>	<b>\$9,936,760</b>	<b>\$9,975,860</b>	<b>\$39,100</b>	<b>\$9,909,645</b>	<b>-\$27,115</b>	
HEALTH CARE CONTRIBUTION (RC)	\$953,525	\$953,525	--	\$953,525	--	
<b>TOTAL, NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, ARMY</b>	<b>\$10,890,285</b>	<b>\$10,929,385</b>	<b>\$39,100</b>	<b>\$10,863,170</b>	<b>-\$27,115</b>	

1. Special Training; Program increase – State Partnership Program \$1,800
2. Special Training; Program increase – Northern Strike \$2,025
3. Undistributed Adjustment; Historical unobligated balances -\$29,000
4. Undistributed Adjustment; Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion -\$83
5. Undistributed Adjustment; Program increase – Pay Raise for Junior Enlisted Servicemembers \$64,358
6. School Training; Program increase – Army Mountain Warfare School \$500
7. Special Training; Program increase – Advanced trauma and public health direct training services \$2,733
8. Special Training; Program increase – Exercise Northern Strike \$8,925
9. Special Training; Program increase – Irregular warfare training exercises \$3,500
10. Special Training; Program increase – Mobile Armed Forces advanced trauma training \$750
11. Special Training; Program increase – State Partnership Program \$830
12. Special Training; Program increase – Wildfire training \$8,500
13. Undistributed Adjustment; Unjustified growth -\$57,658
14. Undistributed Adjustment; Excess to need -\$5,195

## Army National Guard Operations & Maintenance

ARNG O&M Appropriation	FY25 President's Budget Request	FY25 HAC-D Mark	Delta from Request	FY25 SAC-D Mark	Delta from Request	FY25 Conference
MANEUVER UNITS	\$886,229	\$898,304 <sup>1</sup>	\$12,075	\$848,304 <sup>9-10</sup>	-\$37,925	
MODULAR SUPPORT BRIGADES	\$200,417	\$200,417	--	\$200,417	--	
ECHELONS ABOVE BRIGADE	\$861,685	\$821,685 <sup>2</sup>	-\$40,000	\$861,685	--	
THEATER LEVEL ASSETS	\$86,356	\$86,356	--	\$86,356	--	
LAND FORCES OPERATIONS SUPPORT	\$345,720	\$335,720 <sup>3</sup>	-\$10,000	\$345,720	--	
AVIATION ASSETS	\$1,150,777	\$1,158,777 <sub>4,5</sub>	\$8,000	\$1,150,777	--	
FORCE READINESS OPERATIONS SUPPORT	\$737,884	\$717,884 <sup>6</sup>	-\$20,000	\$749,609 <sup>11-15</sup>	\$11,725	
LAND FORCES SYSTEMS READINESS	\$34,262	\$34,262	--	\$34,262	--	
LAND FORCES DEPOT MAINTENANCE	\$221,401	\$221,401	--	\$221,401	--	
BASE OPERATIONS SUPPORT	\$1,247,797	\$1,247,797	--	\$1,229,797 <sup>16</sup>	-\$18,000	
FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION, & MODERNIZATION	\$1,147,554	\$1,217,554 <sub>7</sub>	\$70,000	\$1,207,554 <sup>17</sup>	\$60,000	
MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONAL HQ	\$1,322,621	\$1,322,621	--	\$1,309,621 <sup>18-20</sup>	-\$13,000	
CYBERSPACE ACTIVITIES – CYBERSPACE OPERATIONS	\$5,287	\$5,287	--	\$5,287	--	
CYBERSPACE ACTIVITIES – CYBERSECURITY	\$20,869	\$20,869	--	\$20,869	--	
SERVICEWIDE TRANSPORTATION	\$7,849	\$7,849	--	\$7,849	--	
ADMINISTRATION	\$49,304	\$49,984 <sup>8</sup>	\$680	\$52,617 <sup>21,22</sup>	\$3,313	
SERVICEWIDE COMMUNICATIONS	\$18,585	\$18,585	--	\$18,585	--	
OTHER PERSONNEL SUPPORT	\$297,594	\$297,594	--	\$297,594	--	
REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT	\$3,954	\$3,954	--	\$3,954	--	
UNJUSTIFIED REQUEST	--	\$-155	-\$155	--	--	
HISTORICAL UNOBLIGATION	--	-\$48,000	-\$48,000	--	--	
PROJECTED OVERESTIMATION OF CIVILIAN COMPENSATION	--	-\$27,000	-\$27,000	--	--	
PROJECTED UNDEREXECUTION	--	--	--	-\$43,000	-\$43,000	
<b>TOTAL, ARNG O&amp;M</b>	<b>\$8,646,145</b>	<b>\$8,591,745</b>	<b>-\$54,400</b>	<b>\$8,609,258</b>	<b>-36,887</b>	

1. Maneuver Units; Program increase – Northern Strike \$12,075

2. Echelons Above Brigade; Unjustified request -\$40,000

3. Land Forces Operations Support; Unjustified request -\$10,000

4. Aviation Assets; Program increase – Rotary wing flying hours \$20,000
5. Aviation Assets; Unjustified request -\$12,000
6. Force Readiness Operations Support; Unjustified request -\$20,000
7. Facilities sustainment, Restoration & Modernization; Program increase \$70,000
8. Administration; Program increase – State Partnership Program \$680
9. Maneuver Units; Unjustified growth -\$50,000
10. Maneuver Units; Program increase – Exercise Northern Strike \$12,075
11. Force Readiness Operations Support; Program increase – Advanced trauma and public health direct training services \$1,725
12. Force Readiness Operations Support; Program increase – International advanced trauma and public health training \$750
13. Force Readiness Operations Support; Program increase – Irregular warfare training exercises \$7,000
15. Force Readiness Operations Support; Program increase – Mobile Armed Forces Advanced Trauma Training \$750
15. Force Readiness Operations Support; Program increase – Wildfire training \$1,500
16. Base Operations Support; Unjustified growth -\$18,000
17. Facilities Sustainment, Restoration & Modernization; Program increase: Facility maintenance and report to include quality of life projects \$60,000
18. Management and Operational Headquarters; Unjustified growth -\$24,000
19. Management and Operational Headquarters; Program increase: Mental health providers \$6,000
20. Management and Operational Headquarters; Program increase: Star behavioral health program \$5,000
21. Administration; Program increase: National Guard Bureau Continuity of Operations study \$3,000
22. Administration; Program increase: State partnership program \$313



# Air National Guard

## Air National Guard Personnel

(All Dollars in Thousands)

ANG Personnel Appropriation	FY25 President's Budget Request	FY25 HAC-D Mark	Delta from Request	FY25 SAC-D Mark	Delta from Request	FY25 Conference
PAY GROUP A TRAINING (15 DAYS & DRILLS 24/48)	\$1,163,924	\$1,163,924	--	\$1,163,924	--	
PAY GROUP F TRAINING (RECRUITS)	\$78,601	\$78,601	--	\$78,601	--	
PAY GROUP P TRAINING (PIPELINE RECRUITS)	\$4,947	\$4,947	--	\$4,947	--	
SCHOOL TRAINING	\$361,790	\$361,790	--	\$361,790	--	
SPECIAL TRAINING	\$268,601	\$270,426 <sup>1,2</sup>	\$1,825	\$277,275 <sup>8-12</sup>	\$8,674	
ADMINISTRATION AND SUPPORT	\$3,475,160	\$3,475,160	--	\$3,475,160	--	
THRIFT SAVINGS PLAN MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS	\$28,779	\$28,779	--	\$28,779	--	
EDUCATION BENEFITS	\$15,496	\$15,496	--	\$15,496	--	
<b>TOTAL, BUDGET ACTIVITY 1 (BAC-01)</b>	<b>\$5,397,298</b>	<b>\$5,399,123</b>	<b>\$1,825</b>	<b>\$5,405,972</b>	<b>\$8,674</b>	
UNDISTRIBUTED ADJUSTMENT	--	-\$16,023 <sup>3-7</sup>	-\$16,023	-\$120,178 <sup>13-15</sup>	-\$120,178	
<b>Total, Title I National Guard Personnel, Air Force</b>	<b>\$5,397,298</b>	<b>\$5,383,100</b>	<b>-\$14,198</b>	<b>\$5,285,794</b>	<b>-\$111,504</b>	
HEALTH CARE CONTRIBUTION (RC)	\$384,233	\$384,233	--	\$384,233	--	
<b>Total, National Guard Personnel, Air Force</b>	<b>\$5,781,531</b>	<b>\$5,767,333</b>	<b>-\$14,198</b>	<b>\$5,670,027</b>	<b>-\$111,504</b>	

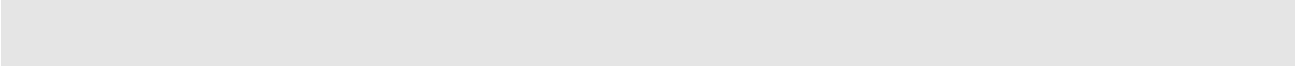
1. Special Training; Program Increase – State Partnership Program \$1,350
2. Special Training; Program Increase – Northern Strike \$475
3. Undistributed Adjustment; Historical unobligated balances -\$3,200
4. Undistributed Adjustment; Program decrease – revised fiscal year 2025 request -\$15,431
5. Undistributed Adjustment; Projected underexecution -\$16,000
6. Undistributed Adjustment; Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion -\$546
7. Undistributed Adjustment; Program increase – Pay Raise for Junior Enlisted Servicemembers \$19,154
8. Special Training; Program Increase – Advanced trauma and public health direct training services \$3,202
9. Special Training; Program Increase – Exercise Northern Strike \$2,100
10. Special Training; Program Increase – Mobile Armed Forces advanced trauma training \$750
11. Special Training; Program Increase – State Partnership Program \$622
12. Special Training; Program Increase – Wildfire training \$2,000
13. Undistributed adjustment; Underexecution of strength -\$150,778
14. Undistributed adjustment; Program increase: Implementation of FY2025 National Defense Authorization Act junior enlisted pay increase \$3,000
15. Undistributed adjustment; Program increase: Pay and allowances for Air National Guard personnel on full-time duty \$27,600



## Air National Guard Operations & Maintenance

ANG O&M Appropriation	FY25 President's Budget Request	FY25 HAC-D Mark	Delta from Request	FY25 SAC-D Mark	Delta from Request	FY25 Conference
AIRCRAFT OPERATIONS	\$2,626,498	\$2,601,498 <sup>1,2</sup>	-\$23,950	\$2,627,498 <sup>11</sup>	\$1,000	
MISSION SUPPORT OPERATIONS	\$649,621	\$650,131 <sup>3</sup>	\$510	\$671,751 <sup>12-17</sup>	\$22,130	
DEPOT PURCHASE EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE	\$1,004,771	\$989,771 <sup>4,5</sup>	-\$15,000	\$995,771 <sup>18</sup>	-\$9,000	
FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	\$458,917	\$478,917 <sup>6</sup>	\$20,000	\$516,097 <sup>19, 20</sup>	\$57,180	
CONTRACTOR LOGISTICS SUPPORT AND SYSTEM SUPPORT	\$1,353,383	\$1,334,383 <sup>7</sup>	-\$19,000	\$1,336,383 <sup>21</sup>	-\$17,000	
BASE OPERATING SUPPORT	\$1,119,429	\$1,102,929 <sup>8,9</sup>	-\$16,500	\$1,124,429 <sup>22</sup>	\$5,000	
CYBERSPACE SUSTAINMENT	\$14,291	\$14,291	--	\$14,291	--	
CYBERSPACE ACTIVITIES	\$57,162	\$57,162	--	\$57,162	--	
ADMINISTRATION	\$71,454	\$71,454	--	\$71,454	--	
RECRUITING AND ADVERTISING	\$48,245	\$49,745 <sup>10</sup>	\$1,500	\$48,245	--	
UNJUSTIFIED REQUEST		-186	-186	--	--	
HISTORICAL UNOBLIGATION	--	-\$25,000	-\$25,000	--	--	
PROJECTED OVERESTIMATION OF CIVILIAN COMPENSATION	--	-\$56,000	-\$56,000	--	--	
PROJECTED UNDEREXECUTION	--	--	--	-\$62,000	-\$62,000	
<b>TOTAL, O&amp;M, AIR NATIONAL GUARD</b>	<b>\$7,403,771</b>	<b>\$7,270,145</b>	<b>-\$133,626</b>	<b>\$7,401,081</b>	<b>-2,690</b>	

1. Aircraft Operations: Program increase – Northern Strike \$1,050
2. Aircraft Operations; Program decrease unaccounted for -\$25,000
3. Mission Support Operations; Program increase – State Partnership Program \$510
4. Depot Purchase Equipment Maintenance; Program increase – KC-135 test aircraft \$5,000
5. Depot Purchase Equipment Maintenance; Program decrease unaccounted for -\$20,000
6. Facilities Sustainment, Restoration & Modernization; Program increase \$20,000
7. Contractor Logistics Support and System Support; Program decrease unaccounted for -\$19,000
8. Base Operations Support; Program decrease unaccounted for -\$15,000
9. Base Operations Support; Transfer to 42J: recruiting vehicle lease -\$1,500
10. Recruiting and Advertising; Transfer from 11Z: recruiting vehicle lease \$1,500
11. Aircraft Operations: Program increase: Exercise Northern Strike \$1,000
12. Mission Support Operations; Program increase: Advanced trauma and public health direct training services \$2,145
13. Mission Support Operations; Program increase: Joint Terminal Attack Controller training \$8,000
14. Mission Support Operations; Program increase: Mental health providers \$5,000
15. Mission Support Operations; Program increase: Mobile Armed Forces Advanced Trauma Training \$750
16. Mission Support Operations; Program increase: State partnership program \$235
17. Mission Support Operations; Program increase: Wildfire training \$6,000
18. Depot Purchase Equipment Maintenance; Program decrease unaccounted for -\$9,000

19. Facilities Sustainment, Restoration & Modernization; Program increase – Additional facility enhancements for future foreign military pilot training sites \$37,180
  20. Facilities Sustainment, Restoration & Modernization; Program increase – Facility maintenance and repair, to include quality of life projects \$20,000
  21. Contractor Logistics Support and System Support; Program decrease unaccounted for -\$17,000
  22. Base Support; Program increase: PFAS related activities \$5,000
- 

## Legislative Provisions

**Sec. 8004** stipulates that no more than 20 percent of the appropriations in this Act which are limited for obligation during the current fiscal year shall be obligated during the last 2 months of the fiscal year shall not apply to obligations for support of active-duty training of reserve components or summer camp training of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps.

**Sec. 8046** prohibits reducing the authorized positions for military technicians (dual status) of the ARNG, ANG, Army Reserve, and Air Force Reserve.

**Sec. 8053** permits the CNGB to allow the use of equipment of the National Guard Distance Learning Project on a space-available, reimbursable basis.

**Sec. 8054** prohibits retiring, preparing to retire, or placing in storage or on backup aircraft inventory status any C-40 aircraft.

**Sec. 8059** allows a servicemember who is a member of the National Guard serving on full-time National Guard duty under section 502(f) of title 32, United States Code, to perform duties in support of the ground-based elements of the National Ballistic Missile Defense System.

**Sec. 8061** allows the CNGB to waive payment of all or part of the consideration that otherwise would be required under section 2667 of title 10, USC, in the case of a lease of personal property for a period not in excess of 1 year to any organization specified in section 508(d) of title 32 USG or any other youth, social, or fraternal nonprofit organization.

**Sec. 8111** appropriates \$2B to the DoD and makes available to the operation and maintenance accounts of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, and Space Force (including National Guard and Reserve) for purposes of improving military readiness provided the SecDef provides a detailed execution plan.

**Sec 8125** appropriates and makes available \$500M for the Indo-Pacific Security Assistance Initiative to provide assistance, including new procurement of defense articles, services, and military education and training to Taiwan.

## Items of Interest

### READINESS

The Committee recommends an additional \$2,000,000,000 in title VIII of this act to be transferred to the operation and maintenance accounts and be divided proportionately among the services and the National Guard and reserve components to address shortfalls in weapons sustainment, training, and operations for which funding was not requested in the fiscal year 2025 President's budget request. The funding provided is a congressional special interest item. The Secretary of Defense and the Service Secretaries are directed to submit a detailed spending plan by sub-activity group to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not less than 30 days prior to the obligation of these funds. These transfers may be implemented 30 days after congressional notification unless an objection is received from either the House or Senate Appropriations Committees.

### POLAR AIRLIFT AIRCRAFT

The Committee notes the importance of polar tactical airlift capabilities for Arctic and Antarctic operations. Further, the Committee notes that the study conducted by the Secretary of the Air Force in coordination with the Commander, U.S. Northern Command, and Director, Air National

Guard, titled "Fiscal Year 2023 LC-130 Report," identifies improvements made in recent years to the LC-130H fleet currently conducting this mission. The study also notes that continual modernization investments and performance enhancements will ensure the relevance and viability of this aircraft and its future mission. However, the Committee understands that this report may not fully take into account the operational activity of these aircraft.

Congress included additional funds in the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2024 (Public Law 118-47) in the amount of \$5,000,000 for non-recurring engineering [NRE] for polar airlift aircraft. To ensure these efforts are fully funded, the Committee recommends an additional \$29,000,000 in fiscal year 2025 only for the purpose of performing NRE efforts in support of ski engineering and modification kits for the LC-130J aircraft. Additionally, to accelerate the recapitalization of the aging LC-130H fleet, the Committee recommends an additional \$200,000,000 for procurement of an initial LC-130J aircraft and components. The Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics) is directed to provide to the congressional defense committees, not later than 90 days after enactment of this act, a spend plan for the additional resources.

### **BUDGET OR APPROPRIATIONS LIAISON SUPPORT TO THE SENATE DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE**

The Committee again retains a provision in title II of this act from previous years that prohibits the use of funds in this act to plan or implement the consolidation of a budget or appropriations liaison office of the office of the Secretary of Defense, the office of the Secretary of a military department, or the Service headquarters of one of the Armed Forces into a legislative affairs or legislative liaison office. The Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittee relies heavily on these offices to conduct its oversight responsibilities and make funding recommendations for the Department of Defense.

The Committee notes that while the separate offices of legislative affairs within the Office of the Secretary of Defense and the military departments offer assistance to the authorizing committees and individual members of the Congress, such assistance is provided on a parallel and separate track from the assistance provided to this Committee and its members by the budget or appropriations liaison office of the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the office of the Secretary of a military department, or the Service headquarters of one of the Armed Forces. As the offices of legislative affairs do not possess the expertise and direct relationship to the Financial Management and Comptroller organizations, which are essential to the effective communication between the Department and the Committees on Appropriations, it is critical that the budget or appropriations liaison offices remain independent from the legislative liaison offices, and retain the authority to respond directly and promptly with the information required by the Committee and its members.

In addition, the Committee is concerned by the apparent increasing establishment of positions within the Department of Defense for additional congressional advisors that supplant the budget or appropriations liaison offices. The Committee is concerned that this negatively impacts the ability of these liaison offices to exercise their responsibility towards the Committee.

### **MILITARY PERSONNEL OVERVIEW**

**Uniformed Members of the Armed Forces.** The Committee recognizes the many sacrifices made by servicemembers in defending our Nation at home and abroad, as well as those made by their military families. In further recognition and support to servicemembers and their families, the Committee's recommendation fully funds the 4.5 percent military pay raise as requested in the fiscal year 2025 President's budget request. The Committee recommendation also fully funds basic allowance for subsistence, basic allowance for housing, and basic needs allowance. Finally, the Committee recommendation fully funds the operation, renovation, and repair of child development

centers and supports full-day pre-kindergarten requested in the fiscal year 2025 President's budget request to expand access to child care for members of the armed forces. The Committee directs the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) to notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate if additional funding is required for these efforts based on projected shortfalls.

**Junior Enlisted Pay.** The Committee recommendation includes \$148,000,000 to implement the junior enlisted pay increase in S. 4638, the National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2025, as reported, that provides a 5.5 percent pay raise for enlisted personnel in the rank of E1 through E3. This is a 1 percent increase over the fiscal year 2025 President's budget request. The Committee notes that while retention goals for servicemembers are largely being met, persistent recruiting challenges continue to affect the military services' end strengths. Accordingly, the additional recommended funding is intended to support the military services in their effort to enlist high-quality recruits. Further, the Committee directs the Secretary of Defense to brief the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate on the recommendations of the 14th Quadrennial Review of Military Compensation not later than 30 days after the final report is complete.

**Air National Guard Unit Leveling Initiative.** The Committee is aware of force structure changes planned by the Director of the Air National Guard to address an imbalance of full-time Active Guard and Reserve [AGR] personnel across like units to ensure that standardized force posture exists to meet readiness requirements more equitably. The Committee notes concerns raised by some States that the proposed changes may be harmful to the readiness of certain units with missions such as search and rescue, aerial refueling, and air alert and air defense missions under U.S. Northern Command. The Committee is appreciative of the engagement by the Air National Guard with Congress and the States on this proposal. The Committee further supports ongoing efforts by the Air National Guard to work with States to address their concerns.

The Committee notes that the fiscal year 2025 President's budget request includes an increase of 403 AGR personnel in the Air National Guard above the level authorized in fiscal year 2024. The Committee recommends an increase of \$27,600,000 over the fiscal year 2025 President's budget request to implement the additional increase of 246 AGR Air National Guard personnel authorized in S. 4638, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025, as reported by the Senate Armed Services Committee.

Further, the Committee is aware of section 516 of S. 4638, as reported, and directs the Chief of the National Guard Bureau to provide the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a copy of the report required by this section, if enacted. The Committee further directs the Secretary of the Air Force, in consultation with the Chief of the National Guard Bureau, to submit a briefing to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than January 1, 2025 that includes detailed data on location and type of unit positions being adjusted, and how the Air National Guard plans to address concerns raised by States to these plans, together with an estimated cost of full implementation.

**Advanced Trauma and Public Health Direct Training Services for the National Guard.** The Committee directs the Chief of the National Guard Bureau to continue state-of-the-art trauma, critical care, behavioral health, public health, and other ancillary direct medical training utilizing academic medical centers. These disciplines for Air National Guard and Army National Guard medical and non-medical personnel, and State Partnership Program/Global Health Engagement international partners are intended to minimize civilian-military and international coalition medical operational gaps in the event of a catastrophic incident. Further, these preparedness programs shall be delivered through direct training services, to include advanced trauma, public health, and combat lifesaver curriculums focusing on critical life-saving procedures, epidemiology of public health diseases, prevention and treatment, mass casualty triage, and psychological health.

**Mobile Armed Forces Advanced Trauma Training.** The Committee commends the National Guard Bureau-Joint Surgeon's Office [NGB-JSG] for facilitating state-of-the-art trauma training for medical military servicemembers to maintain their trauma care readiness. The Committee further notes the efforts by the NGBJSG in creating a mobile training model to expand access for personnel required to maintain lifesaving training certifications. The Committee is aware that the National Guard Bureau may soon be reducing intervals between training which would increase the amount of personnel that require certifications. Therefore, the Committee encourages the National Guard Bureau to designate this as a program of record and appropriately budget internally to meet the additional requirements to provide lifesaving trauma training.

### **REPROGRAMMING GUIDANCE FOR OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE ACCOUNTS**

The Committee directs the Secretary of Defense to submit the Base for Reprogramming (DD Form 1414) for each of the fiscal year 2025 appropriation accounts not later than 60 days after the enactment of this act. The Secretary of Defense is prohibited from executing any reprogramming or transfer of funds for any purpose other than originally appropriated until the aforementioned report is submitted to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees.

The Committee directs the Secretary of Defense to use the normal prior approval reprogramming procedures to transfer funds in the services' operation and maintenance accounts between 0-1 budget activities, or between subactivity groups in the case of Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide, in excess of \$15,000,000. In addition, the Secretary of Defense shall follow prior approval reprogramming procedures for transfers in excess of \$15,000,000 out of the following readiness activity groups or sub-activity groups:

Air National Guard:

Activity Group "Flying Hours", which is only sub-activity  
Group 011F Aircraft Operations

Activity Group "Weapons System Sustainment", which includes Sub-activity groups 011M Depot  
Purchase Equipment Maintenance and 011W Contractor Logistics Support and System Support

Army National Guard:

Sub-activity Group 131 Base Operations Support  
Sub-activity Group 132 Facilities Sustainment, Restoration, and Modernization  
Sub-activity Group 133 Management and Operational Headquarters

### **STATE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM**

The State Partnership Program [SPP] has been successfully building relationships for more than 30 years by linking a State's National Guard with the armed forces or equivalent of a partner country in a cooperative, mutually beneficial relationship. It includes 92 unique security partnerships involving 106 nations around the globe. The Committee recognizes the importance of SPP and encourages continued robust support of this important partnership program.

### **COMBAT READINESS TRAINING CENTERS**

The Committee recognizes the strategic value that Air National Guard combat readiness training centers provide to the readiness and capabilities of the joint force. Therefore, in fiscal year 2025, the Committee expects the Secretary of the Air Force and the Chief of the National Guard Bureau to continue resourcing personnel and operations at all four combat readiness training centers at no less than the funding levels included in the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2024 (Public Law 118-47).

The Committee directs the Secretary of the Air Force, in coordination with the Chief of the National Guard Bureau, to provide a briefing to the congressional defense committees, not later than 90 days after the enactment of this act, detailing plans for the operations, manning, and anticipated annual funding requirements for each of the combat readiness training centers from fiscal year 2025 through the Future Years Defense Program.

### **CLASSIC ASSOCIATIONS**

The Committee notes that there are six Air National Guard [ANG] units that operate under classic associations with their active-duty counterparts. While these ANG units do not own aircraft, they are operationally integrated into the active unit that maintains operational control of the mission set. The Committee understands that informal agreements exist between active and guard units that provide small numbers of backup aircraft to the Guard units. The Committee notes that the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2024 (Public Law 118-47) directed the Secretary of the Air Force to pursue a memorandum of agreement to formally recognize such agreements. The Committee directs the Secretary of the Air Force to brief the congressional defense committees on the status of these agreements not later than 60 days after the enactment of this act.

### **NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE EQUIPMENT ACCOUNT**

The Committee recommends an appropriation of \$1,000,000,000, of which \$650,000,000 is designated as being for an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985. This is \$1,000,000,000 above the budget estimate.

The appropriation includes direction for the component commanders of the Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Marine Forces Reserve, Air Force Reserve, Army National Guard, and Air National Guard to submit to the congressional defense committees a detailed assessment of their component's modernization priorities, not later than 30 days after enactment of this act.

The Committee directs the Secretary of Defense to ensure that the National Guard and Reserve Equipment account is executed by the Chiefs of the National Guard and reserve components with priority consideration given to the following items: aircraft emergency response refuel equipment kits; aviation status dashboard; controlled humidity preservation; call for fire training; crashworthy, ballistically tolerant auxiliary fuel systems for UH-60 helicopters; heavy dump trucks; high mobility multipurpose wheeled vehicle modernization; training systems for aircraft survivability and weapons engagement; UH-60 gunner seats; and vehicle-mounted, man-portable radiological nuclear detection systems.

### **IMPROVED TROOP SEATS FOR H-60 ROTORCRAFT**

The Committee recognizes the importance of improved troop and gunner seats in H-60 rotorcraft to better support Army aircrew readiness and mitigate personnel injuries. The Committee understands the Army has integrated the side-facing multi-functioning operator seat in new production UH-60M Black Hawk rotorcraft to address this concern, however, the Army continues to maintain and operate older legacy UH-60L rotorcraft that would require improved troop and gunner seats with the majority of these being operated by the Army National Guard. Accordingly, the Committee directs the Chief of Staff of the Army, in coordination with the Chief of the National Guard Bureau to provide a briefing to the congressional defense committees, not later than 60 days after enactment of this act that addresses the advisability and feasibility for upgrading legacy UH-60L aircraft with improved troop and gunner seats. The report shall include analysis of other military service gunner seats, as well as any cost data related to required air-worthiness certification requirements.

## **AIR FORCE TANKER RECAPITALIZATION**

The Committee notes that the average age of the current fleet of KC--135 aerial refueling tankers is nearly 60 years old. The Committee urges the Air Force to continue to prioritize the recapitalization of the aging tanker fleet and supports the Air Force plan to continue to replace up to 15 KC--135s per year with modern aircraft. However, the Committee is concerned with the lack of detail on the Air Force's recapitalization plan in future years to ensure sufficient aerial refueling capabilities to support operational and contingency requirements. Accordingly, the Committee directs the Secretary of the Air Force to provide a report to the congressional defense committees not later than 120 days from the enactment of this act detailing the long-term KC-135 recapitalization plan for the active and reserve components. This report shall include the following: (1) the procurement and divestment plans or actions the Air Force plans to implement by fiscal year for the next 20 years, (2) the actions the Air Force will take to ensure that required operational readiness rates are maintained during any planned divestment or recapitalization affecting KC--135 aircraft, and (3) an analysis of how the procurement and divestment plans or actions the Air Force plans to implement ensure the interoperability and operational relevance of the reserve components in the total force.